



Flying over Pendleton

See Page D1



Serving
Camp Pendleton

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2001

Mass transit riders rate DoT vouchers

Sign-ups end Tuesday
for up to \$65 subsidy

SGT. ROBERT PIPER
STAFF WRITER

Federal employees on Camp Pendleton who ride public transportation and ap-

ply by Tuesday could receive up to \$65 in vouchers by Nov. 1 through a Department of Defense Transportation Incentive Program.

The vouchers are provided through the Department of Transportation

The program, increasing to \$100 in January and open to military personnel, DoD and nonappropriated fund (NAF) civilians, aims to reduce the contribution federal employees make to pollution and traffic congestion while expanding their

commuting alternatives.

Applications for the tax-free incentive can be picked up at various base locations or received via e-mail, according to Mariette Willess, Base Manpower's director of Plans and Policy.

The Tuesday deadline allows the base to meet its deadline of Oct. 11 for submitting applications seeking vouchers for the month of November.

"We have to have applications (submitted to DoD) by the second Thursday of

every month," Willess said.

DoD will provide vouchers that can be exchanged for transit passes. The passes are also good for van pools of six or more passengers operated by a transit authority.

The vouchers are good only for mass transit. "It's only redeemable through a mass-transit authority," Willess said.

In North County, a monthly bus pass costs \$46, Willess said. But some employees — for example, Coaster riders —

could get more if they pay for a connection to a bus.

"If it's costing them \$75 a month, we'll give them \$65," Willess said. Those commuters can reapply in December or sooner to increase their reimbursement for the month of January, she said.

Base employees who miss the Tuesday deadline can enroll next month for a December reimbursement, she said.

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Girl handcrafts emblems of U.S. solidarity

Proud pin wearers
honor heroes while
chipping in for the
American Red Cross

SGT. TRAVIS A. GANNON
STAFF WRITER

Across the nation, patriotic people are showing their pride in many ways, and at San Onofre School, students wear it on their shirts.

A homemade pin formed by the hands and heart of a 12-year-old girl is the growing fad there.

Ashley Espinosa, a seventh-grader, handcrafts "patriotic people pins" from wire and beads and exchanges them for donations to the Red Cross.



Ashley Espinosa

Ashley has already made and sold more than 100 pins. The pins, which cost less than 50 cents to make, are attracting donations of up to \$20.

Ashley has raised more than \$700 selling the pins and wants to raise at least \$1,000. Ashley's mother, Kelly, has contacted the Red Cross for details on donating to the disaster relief fund in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks that shocked the nation.

Ashley spends about an hour a day designing her pins. Each pin takes about five to 10 minutes to make and is designed to reflect careers essential to disaster response, such as firefighting, law enforcement or nursing.

"It makes me feel really good to do something like this," Ashley said. "It feels good to know I'm making a difference."

Ashley started making similar pins as a hobby over the

See **Pins**, Page A6

GSM Marines bust suds for victims

Lance corporal's letter
triggers car wash that
raises more than
\$3,000 for terror
victims and relief
workers

SGT. TRAVIS A. GANNON
STAFF WRITER

A young lance corporal engineered a letter asking his company to help in raising money for victims of the World Trade Center attacks. The letter quickly worked its way up the chain of command and was approved for the

company to help out.

The Marines of General Support Maintenance Company, 1st Maintenance Battalion, 1st Force Service Support Group, held an all-day car wash at Pioneer Services in Ocean-side Sept. 22 and donated their entire earnings — \$3,189 — to the American Red Cross.

"I was just sitting there watching the news. I was thinking and wishing there was something we could do," said Sgt. Gabriel J. Trejo, safety and hazardous material noncommissioned officer. "Then (LCpl. Joshua D. Wenger) came to me with a letter and asked if I could take it up the chain of command for him."

Within a week, the car wash was

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Pendleton from above



LCPL. JOSEPH E. MITCHELL

Marines from Marine Air Control Squadron 1 in Yuma, Ariz., SPIE-rig in the 33 Area here Sept. 24.

Contracting office saluted

SGT. TRAVIS A. GANNON
STAFF WRITER

After blazing a trail to save taxpayer money while maintaining product quality, the Southwest Regional Contracting Office here has received the Federal

Acquisition Award.

The RCO here was the first in the Marine Corps to test a new online program that allows consumers who use the contracting office to specify a need and suppliers to send in bids. The program, known as reverse auctions, helps consumers find the best deal through an open bidding process that

allows vendors to monitor bidding and change their bid.

The program is still controversial, according to Government Executive Magazine's Web site, www.govexec.com. Some consumers fear that while they may be able to find bottom-line prices,

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Military OK'd for tax-deferred plan

SGT. DAVID CHRISTIAN
STAFF WRITER

Service members on Tuesday can enroll for the first time in a tax-deferred retirement savings plan for federal employees.

The fiscal year 2001 National Defense Authorization Act clears the way

for service members to participate in the plan, known as the Thrift Savings Plan, a long-term savings and investment vehicle based on payroll contributions.

Income invested in the TSP is "pre-tax," reducing a service member's total taxable income while protecting the income and earnings from taxation until withdrawn.

Money cannot be withdrawn without

penalties until a service member reaches age 59. Many people can reduce their ultimate tax burden by waiting until they retire. Many retirees earn reduced income that places them in a lower tax bracket. The lower tax rate applies to money they withdraw after retirement.

Service members may borrow against their available account balance.

See **Taxes**, Page A6

Resting Matilda



SGT. ROBERT PIPER

Division Schools' mascot, PFC Matilda, demonstrates how to "take cover" next to a Soviet tank following her promotion on Monday.

A Co. the lifeblood link in Egypt

LCPL. ANTHONY R. BLANCO
STAFF WRITER

Working in an office with air conditioning and padded seats is a luxury here — one Marines from A Company, 9th Communication Battalion, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, won't have in Egypt despite 100-degree temperatures expected during Exercise Bright Star-01 this month.

This will be the first time A Co. has supported the biannual exercise, which previously didn't involve 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade. In the past, Bright Star belonged to Marine Forces Pacific.

A Co. began preparing three months ago to ensure everything and every Marine was

combat-ready for Bright Star 01, an exercise involving more than 70,000 military personnel from various countries, including 2,200 1st MEB Marines and Sailors.

The Marines first deployed locally with the same gear they're taking to Egypt and tested it in the field, said 1stLt. Billy Cornell, A Co. commander.

"After we returned from the deployment, we evaluated how the equipment operated and where we could increase proficiency," said Cornell, an Iota, La., native.

A Co. is also using new technology methods of transferring e-mails through satellite transmissions, said LCpl. Donald Shankle, multi-equipment operator, A Co.

"We've only been using this

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Hispanics seek balance of integration, preservation

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Hispanic Heritage Month* began Sept. 15 and concludes Oct. 15.

SGT. ROBERT PIPER
STAFF WRITER

From PFC Harold Gonsalves, a Medal of Honor recipient in World War II, to Camp Pendleton's 1stLt. Karen M. Walker, winner of the National Image Award for meritorious service, Hispanic Marines have made significant contributions to the Marine Corps.

Hispanic Americans currently constitute 12.9 percent of the Corps' Marines -- a statistic that underscores the need to recognize those who "paved the way for future generations," the theme for this month's observance.

Two such leaders are MGySgt. Norberto Martinez Jr., deputy director of the Staff Noncommissioned Officer Academy, and Cpl. Maria Villicanabedolla, armorer at the Staff Noncommissioned Officer Academy. Both are of Mexican descent and pride themselves as leaders in the Corps.

"For me, it's great to be both Hispanic and part of the building blocks that comprise America," Martinez said.

One is a wealth of knowledge, bringing 29 years of experience to any conversation; the other is a leader in the trenches.

Both treasure their Hispanic roots.

"The generations between our grandparents, parents and us have lost a lot of traditions and values," said Villicanabedolla, who was born in Mexico City. "We may be in this country now, but it's imperative not to forget where our ancestors came from, not forget how life was."

Hispanic Heritage Month represents a chance to celebrate one's lineage, but also recognizes the contributions Hispanics have made to the national fabric.

"It's important to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month and recognize the significant contributions made to our country," said Martinez. "America is comprised of different nationalities, and everyone should rejoice in who they are and where they're from."

This month also offers many a chance to learn more about their past.

"Every year I try to ensure that I'm knowledgeable about my heritage, so that if I have children, I'll be able to teach them," Villicanabedolla said. "If we just let

our heritage go, it's gone forever, and our children need to know where they came from."

"We like to have a small family get together," Martinez said. "This year we went to Old Town."

Having faced no real roadblocks due to their ethnicity, both Marines are thankful for those who came before them and cleared the way. They hope to provide examples of success for others to follow.

"Every day, I just try to be a leader by example and be a positive role model others would like to emulate," Martinez said.

"I'm constantly trying to think of and encourage others to think of new ideas to make life easier and keep history alive," Villicanabedolla said. "I strive for self-improvement daily and try to show others how to succeed."

"We may be in this country now, but it's imperative not to forget where our ancestors came from, not forget how life was."

Cpl. Maria Villicanabedolla
Armorer

Pendleton Points

Submissions for Pendleton Points must be received by Monday at 4 p.m. to make that week's paper. Submissions can be brought to Building 1160, Room 113; faxed to 385-0053; or e-mailed to lamaybe@mail.cpp.usmc.mil.

DeCA scholarships available

Applications for the second annual Defense Commissary Agency/Fisher House Foundation Scholarships for Military Children Program will be available beginning Nov. 1 at your local commissary and for download at www.commissaries.com.

SNCO Academy Advanced Course graduation

The graduation ceremony for Advanced Course Class 6-01 will be held at 10 a.m. Oct. 12 at the South Mesa Staff NCO Club. Command representatives, families and guests are invited to attend. The dress will be uniform of the day for military personnel and appropriate civilian attire for civilians.

For more information, call 763-0220 or 725-4822.

Child care providers needed

Camp Pendleton's Family Child Care program is looking for "a few good family members" to become qualified providers. It's a chance to earn income while helping children during their crucial developmental years.

FCC staff will train new providers in CPR, first aid, sanitation, safety and child development.

Families needing daycare are reminded that using uncertified providers violates a base order.

For more information, call 725-9723 or 725-9549.

Fall festival, crafters needed

Mary Fay Pendleton Elementary School will hold its fall festival Oct. 20 from 1 to 4 p.m. Games, a giant slide, an air-

filled bounce bubble and cake-walk will be on tap, along with crafts, plenty of food, a helicopter landing and silent auction.

Crafters can rent tables for \$10. Call 385-712

Variety show slated

The Marine Memorial Chapel Protestant Service and the City of Refuge Church of God in Christ will host a Unity Concert and Variety Show here Saturday at 7 p.m. The show will feature local choirs, step teams and dance troupes.

For more information, call 725-6214 or 433-4115.

Ohio recruiting opening

Recruiters' assistants are needed in northeast Ohio for the last three months of the year. The 30-day assignment nets promotion points for those who serve. Call (800) 862-3431.

Retired officers' ball

The Retired Officers Association will host its 23rd annual commemoration of the Marine Corps birthday with a military ball Nov. 3.

A five-piece orchestra will perform, along with the Marine Corps Band, with dancing from 8 to 11 p.m.

Prime rib headlines the menu, with birthday cake for dessert.

Dress is formal. Admission is \$30 per person. Retired Maj. Gen. Claude Reinke will be the guest of honor.

Call retired Maj. Ray Schmidt, 728-5389.

Preretirement seminar

Marines and Navy personnel (officers and enlisted) contemplating retirement within two years are invited to a preretirement seminar Oct. 16 through 19 from 7:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Base Entertainment Center, Building 1339.

Spouses are encouraged to attend.

Reservations are required. Call Val Valentine, 725-6207.

Seminars are also scheduled for Dec. 11-14 and Feb. 12-15, 2002.

SGLI gets family updates

Effective Nov. 1, (determined on a worldwide basis by time at the international dateline) spouses and children of all Marines insured under the SGLI program will automatically be insured under SGLI. The Marine must be covered under the SGLI program in order that coverage may be extended to the Marine's family members. Family members of uninsured Marines will not be covered.

Spousal coverage

- Automatically covered for \$100,000 (maximum amount) or the amount of the Marine's coverage, if insured for less than \$100,000.
- In no case may the amount of insurance coverage for the spouse exceed the amount of insurance coverage of the Marine.
- The Marine may elect less than the maximum amount (\$100,000) in increments of \$10,000 and must do so in writing by completing the SGLV 8286a.

- Marines married to another service member are eligible for spousal coverage. If each member desires to elect the maximum amount for both SGLI and spousal coverage, the member would be insured for \$350,000. The premium costs for spouses who are also service members will not be based on the flat rate.
- If marriage occurs after Nov. 1, insurance coverage becomes effective on the date of marriage.

The Marine must elect in writing not to insure his/her spouse by completing the SGLV 8286a.

- If the Marine declines or elects less than the maximum coverage and at a later date desires to obtain or increase coverage, the Marine must complete the SGLV 8285a and 8286a.

Children coverage

- Automatically covered for \$10,000 at no

cost to the Marine.

- The Marine may not elect to insure his/her children for less than \$10,000.

- Coverage becomes effective on the date of birth (if after Nov. 1) or, if the child is not the natural child of the Marine, the date on which the child acquires status as an insurable family member of the Marine.

- A child may not be insured at any time by the insurance coverage of more than one service member.

The newly created SGLV 8285a and 8286a are posted and should be obtained from the VA Web site: www.insurance.va.gov/forms/forms.htm.

These forms may be downloaded or completed online and then printed.

Making the pledge



SGT. DAVID CHRISTIAN

MajGen. David F. Bice, commanding general of Marine Corps Base, signs his Combined Federal Campaign pledge card in his office Monday.

Don't drink and drive

- In California, .08 Blood Alcohol Content and higher is illegal when driving.

- On a Saturday night, one out of every 10 drivers who pass you are driving under the influence of alcohol.

- Cases of DUI increase by 10 to 15 percent during holiday months, the last quarter of the calendar year.

- This year through September, Camp Pendleton has had 243 DUI cases. Twenty-five percent of Camp Pendleton's DUIs involved unaffiliated civilians.

- Approximately 40 percent of all traffic fatalities are alcohol-related.

DoD asks troops to pace their blood donations

SGT. 1ST CLASS KATHLEEN T. RHEM, USA
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28, 2001 -- Troops wishing to give blood shouldn't be surprised if the donor center asks them to come back in a week or two.

"That just means we're trying to make sure there's a steady supply of blood available if we need it," said Col. Michael Fitzpatrick, director of the Armed Services Blood Program Office.

Fresh blood products can be used for 42 days after collection, but individuals can only donate blood every 56 days.

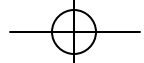
So, he said, an installation that holds a massive blood drive on one day could be in trouble if it needs large amounts of blood six to eight weeks later. Service blood program officers and installations try to prevent such problems by pacing collections.

"Right now, there's no need for a lot of additional blood," Fitzpatrick said.

SCHEDULE FOR BASEWIDE FLUSHING SOUTH SYSTEM OCTOBER 2001 TO DECEMBER 2001

DATE	AREA	LOCATION	DAYS
OCTOBER			
9 - 11	33	ALL OF 33 AREA	2
11 - 12	25	ALL OF 25 AREA	1
12 - 15	22/20	COASTAL TRANSMISSION MAIN & 20 AREA PX COMPLEX	1
15 - 17	20	WIRE MOUNTAIN II HOUSING	2
17 - 18	20	SANTA MARGARITA HOUSING & SCHOOL	1
18 - 22	20	SOUTH MESA II & SOUTH MESA EAST	1
22 - 23	20	SOUTH MESA WEST, NEW HOUSING & STAFF CLUB	1
23 - 24	20	W. M. PX COMPLEX & WIRE MOUNTAIN I HOUSING	1
24 - 25	20	WIRE MOUNTAIN III HOUSING	1
25 - 26	20	FORSTER HILLS & MAIN GATE	1
29 - 1	21	CAMP DEL MAR	3
NOVEMBER			
1 - 7	21	DEL MAR HOUSING	3
7 - 8	32	MASS III	1
8 - 9	31	STUART MESA HOUSING & NCTD WASH DOWN FACILITY	1
13 - 19	22	ALL OF 22 AREA	3
19	24	ALL OF 24 AREA	0.5
20	26	ALL OF 26 AREA	0.5
20 - 21	27	LAKE O'NEILL CAMPGROUND & HOSPITAL	1
21 - 26	27	O'NEILL HEIGHTS HOUSING	1
26 - 27	12	ALL OF 12 AREA	1
27 - 28	13	ALL OF 13 AREA	1
28 - 29	16/18	ALL OF 16/18 AREAS	1
29 - 3	14	DELUS HOUSING *	1
DECEMBER			
3 - 5	14	ALL OF 14 AREA	2
5 - 6	11	ALL OF 11 AREA & GENERAL QUARTER'S	1
6 - 7	15	ALL OF 15 AREA, SERRA MESA HOUSING & STABLES	1
7 - 10	17	SAN LUIS REY HOUSING & ALL OF 17 AREA	1
10 - 12	23	ALL OF MCAS	2
12 - 13	31	ALL OF EDSON RANGE	1
13 - 17	31	MCTSSA	1
17 - 18	31	LCAC	1
18 - 19	41	ALL OF CAMP LAS FLORES	1
19 - 21	43	ALL OF CAMP LAS PULGAS	2

* DeLuz Housing to be flushed by the Base Water Supply Branch



Seabees break ground, save Corps money



SGT. MATTHEW SHAW

Cpl. Josh Castro, crew chief, B Co., 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion, 1st Marine Division, prepares to fire from an AAV trainer. The system helps Marines improve their firing accuracy without ammunition.

Detail's work, including marksmanship simulator buildings at Las Flores and SOI, saves Corps \$300,000

BRIAN LA MAY
MANAGING EDITOR

Thirty-five Navy Seabees from the South broke ground this week on three construction projects that will save the Corps more than \$300,000 while making Camp Pendleton a better -- and cheaper -- place to train.

The Seabees, who constitute a detail from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133, based at the the Construction Battalion Center in Gulfport, Miss., are building indoor simulated marksmanship training (ISMT) facilities at School of Infantry and Camp Las Flores. They'll also build a new grenade house and four wood-framed structures at the Military Operations in Urban Terrain facility.

The wooden structures will replace existing buildings being demolished by a civilian contractor.

The ISMT facilities will measure 8,000 and 4,400 square feet, respectively. Each will contain simulator rooms, office space, classrooms and restrooms. Construction will include concrete foundations, 4-foot-high masonry walls and a metal structure.

The ISMTs are part of Headquarters Marine Corps' plan to conserve ammunition and make better use of range time by ensuring Marines have the skills to qualify before they're assigned to the range, according to Ted Wilson, a training device specialist for the base, working under the assistant chief of staff for Operations and Training. Wilson, a retired Marine chief warrant officer, formerly served the Corps as a range officer.

The Seabees' participation is a coup for the base, saving money that otherwise would put project costs at more than \$500,000 per facility if built by civilian contractors built them. Projects costing more require congressional approval, according to Steve Wolfe, deputy public works officer here.

"These projects are below that level because we don't have to pay for (civilian) labor," Wolfe said. The savings is \$150,000 per facility, he said.

Seabees also built the last two ISMT facilities completed in February, one serving 11th Marine Regiment at Camp Las Pulgas, the other serving I Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group at the corner of 13th and C streets on Mainside, Wilson said.

Wolfe said the current projects help the Navy Seabees by giving them experience working with Marines, whom they'd support in combat. Wolfe

knows; he moonlights as commanding officer of Construction Battalion Mobile Unit 303, a Navy Reserve unit based in San Diego.

"It promotes interoperability -- to work and train with people they support in contingencies," he said.

The Seabees will be hosted by 1st Reconnaissance Battalion at Camp Margarita during their seven-month stay, according to Navy Lt. Tim Wallace, detail officer-in-charge.

Their stay corresponds with the Seabee battalions' normal deployment schedule, which follows seven months deployed with seven months at home.

After finishing their work here, the detachment will return to Gulfport before deploying again under a new arrangement of six months away followed by 10 months at home. The new cycle is designed reduce family separation time, Wallace said.

Some members of the detail have had plenty of time to get used to the current deployment cycle, Wallace said.

"I've got guys who've been doing this for five years straight," he said. "Most of our younger troops come in and do four or five years with the battalion, so they do the seven-month rotation for five straight years."

Wallace is on his second rotation. His first seven-month deployment was to Rota, Spain, one of four primary Seabee battalion deployment destinations.

The others are Guam, Puerto Rico and Okinawa, Japan. Puerto Rico will be de-emphasized later this year, leaving three primary destinations, Wallace said.

The detachment is happy to be in Southern California, he said.

"I've got some (members) that are from here, so they're coming back home," Wallace said.

The Navy has eight such battalions in the United States, four based in Gulfport and four based at Port Hueneme in Ventura County. But unlike Marine units that have specific regions of purview, Seabee Battalions regularly flip-flop areas of responsibility, according to Wolfe.

"It's just the way they do business," Wolfe said.

Seventh Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Force Service Support Group, provided some of the heavy equipment the Seabees are using, including rollers, graders and front-end loaders, Wolfe said.

The Seabees have set up shop in the Facilities Maintenance Division's Heavy Equipment Shop at the foot of Rattlesnake Canyon Road.

Techie, former grunt stresses simulators' training value

BRIAN LA MAY
MANAGING EDITOR

Retired Master Sergeant Jim Waggoner, Camp Pendleton's new on-site support specialist for Indoor Simulated Marksmanship Training, knows firsthand why it's important to stay proficient with weapons.

One day in the spring of 1990, Waggoner was lying on a hotel bed in Las Vegas watching the news, ready to go try his luck in the casino. The TV news was reporting the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait and troop buildup near the Saudi Arabian border. "Hey, this is gettin' good," Waggoner remembers thinking.

Waggoner, then company gunny for Charlie Company, 1st Reconnaissance Bn., 1st Marine Division, called his unit. They ordered him to return -- pronto.

Three days later, Waggoner had traded a one-armed bandit and a remote control in an air-conditioned hotel for a sweltering warehouse in Saudi and a vehicle-mounted M60 machinegun. The lesson: "When the balloon goes up, things start happening real fast," said Waggoner, an infantry Marine for 21 years before retiring in April.

Waggoner, a technical service representative for Firearms Training Systems, Inc., says regular ISMT is the way to keep Marines proficient for

such rapid, unexpected mobilizations. The systems cover anything from annual rifle range to antitank and mortars firing.

But the system provides more than just practice putting rounds downrange. Using the same video screen, projector and weapons with an upgraded computer, the latest generation of the FATS, the FATS-3 or "enhanced" model, offers vivid training for the gamut of military and law enforcement applications -- from swat teams raiding a drug boat to artillery missions coordinated between a fire team, forward observer and a fire direction center.

Leaders can "author" the scenario, Waggoner said, using a "joystick" to manipulate computer-generated actors while Marines respond with real battlefield weapons hardwired into the system. The weapons could be anything from 9 mm handguns to .50-caliber rifles to the latest antitank weapon, the AT-4. Instead of real ammunition, the weapons fire "lasers" detected by the computer to record hits and misses on a wide variety of targets.

But the tinkering doesn't stop with weapons types and missions. The first-generation FATS could vary environmental conditions like wind and brightness. The new system brings possibilities to a new dimension. Leaders can mimic, say, machinegunners firing in-

to a driving rainstorm, or LAV gunners trying to take out a hazy enemy in a desert dust storm. You can even mimic snow.

If Marines are called upon to operate in mountainous environment, for example, they can create a scenario in which hostile forces emerge from behind boulders in mountainous terrain, Waggoner said.

If you want to thicken the plot, you can have "friendlylies" walking around among the bad guys, Waggoner said.

The sky's the limit. Waggoner sees endless applications for the training.

Soon after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, he saw Marines armed with machineguns guarding the airfield as he drove home.

"What was the guy doing the day he was out there with the machinegun," Waggoner wondered. "Was he out practicing how to use it?"

"We all know M-16s and 9 mils pretty well, but some guys go years without firing a ma-

chinegun."

Marines on such duty could certainly benefit from "weird checkpoint scenarios" the simulator can generate, he added.

In the past, most units used ISMTs strictly for rifle range training, Waggoner said. The

"Commanders and Marines were getting a bad taste in their mouths about ISMT, because it was always broken and they couldn't get it fixed. Now that's changing."

Ted Wilson
Training device specialist

Marine Corps promoted the systems in part as a means to better prepare Marines for rifle qualification, according to Ted Wilson, a training device specialist for the assistant chief of staff for Operations and Training, whose

office now supports 66 Firearms Training Systems distributed to units throughout the base. Money was the primary motivator behind ISMT, Wilson said. "We're getting less ammo to shoot and less money to go out in the field and train," he said.

That's understandable enough when you're shooting bullets. How about rockets?

"Every time you fire an AT-4 (the latest antitank weapon), it's very expen-

sive," Waggoner said. "If I wanted to shoot the TOW system, rounds were \$4,000 or \$5,000 apiece -- and that was 15 years ago. You want to shoot an AT-4 here? How much does that cost. Well, you can do it all day long on a simulator for pennies."

And, with Waggoner now on site, trouble response often is now just a car ride -- instead of a continent -- away.

FATS, a Suwanee, Ga.-based Co., hired and trained Waggoner last spring as a West Coast representative to troubleshoot systems and train Marines on how to use them. He had been on the job at his office in the 22 Area about three months when the first "enhanced" systems began arriving Aug. 20. The base now has 25 of the upgraded models, most of them distributed to 1st Marine Division units.

The new units are being installed at new ISMT facilities going up around base. Five of 10 have been built, with groundbreaking scheduled this week for buildings at School of Infantry, Camp Las Flores and Camp Horno, Wilson said.

Previously, units' only option was to call a toll-free number in Georgia for online support. Replacement parts still are sent via Federal Express, but sometimes Waggoner can fix them on the scene. If not, he'll send them to Georgia. He's chipping

away at a stockpile of 120 broken simulator weapons he found when he took the job, he said.

The broken weapons are a testament to the frustration the ISMT service arrangement caused in the past, Wilson said.

"Commanders and Marines were getting a bad taste in their mouths about ISMT, because it was always broken and they couldn't get it fixed," Wilson said. "Now that's changing."

That's because Waggoner is here, serving not only Pendleton, but Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and Twentynine Palms as well. "Not one blade of grass grows under his feet. He's always on the move," Wilson said.

Waggoner says he embodies FATS, Inc.'s stepped-up commitment to its product.

"We're making a serious attempt to improve training, to improve customer support," he said.

Attacks evoking Corps values in everyday people

BY SGTMAJ. STEPHEN H. MELLINGER

Like every American, I've had an endless number of personal thoughts and views about the terrorist attacks Sept. 11 in New York City and Washington D.C.

After being made aware of the horrific tragedies that morning, I quickly turned on the television. Moments later, I watched as the first World Trade Center building collapsed. The news then showed the Pentagon on fire with a huge section of the building destroyed.

Like everyone else, I instantly knew I was watching not a series of coincidental accidents, but rather intentional acts of terrorism at a level beyond anything the world had seen before. I remember my first thoughts -- that life for every American has now been changed forever. My next thoughts were of the thousands of Americans killed or injured.

As I dressed for work, I began thinking about the scale of these atrocities. Having experienced the 1983 terrorist suicide bombing of the 1/8 Battalion Landing Team Headquarters in Beirut, I knew these attacks were unimaginable in comparison.

My focus then went to those individuals, groups and sponsors of terrorism confirmed to be either indirectly or directly involved in what had just happened.

I do not believe our country has ever witnessed its citizens pulling together as

"one" and displaying a selfless love of country and fellow Americans anything close to what we've seen the last three weeks in our country.

As news started to come out about the response of individuals and groups of Americans that fateful morning,

Admiral Nimitz's comments describing the actions of Marines during the battle on Iwo Jima -- "uncommon valor was a common virtue" -- clearly fit.

For example, the exact details of United Airlines Flight 93 will never be known except by those on that flight. However, based on cell phone conversations initiated by a couple of passengers on that hijacked airliner, the passengers learned of the hijackers' intentions. We know that a handful of brave passengers was determined, regardless of their fate, to ensure that aircraft would not be used to destroy lives like in New York and Washington D.C.

I recently learned about a Marine corporal who was on guard duty close to the point of impact at the Pentagon. The Marine peeled off his burning uniform, ignited by jet fuel, and immediately headed into the building to help rescue victims inside.

While trying to pull a lady from the rubble, wreckage fell from above and broke several of his fingers. Still, he continued until someone grabbed him to get him

medical assistance. When the fellow Marine grabbed his shoulder, the corporal's charred skin came off in his friend's hand.

The corporal will be, if not already, moved to the Air Force's burn center in Texas once his third-degree burns have stabilized.

"Honor, Courage and Commitment" is an understatement in describing the heroic and selfless actions of the New York police, firefighters and others involved with the rescue and recovery there.

The military has been told by our commander in chief to "be ready." As our nation begins to heal from these attacks, it's time for us in the military to be prepared for our primary mission. As our country begins this war on terrorism, the images of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon should be etched in our minds and in our resolve to ensure this never happens again in our country.

Semper Fidelis.
Mellinger is sergeant major of Marine Forces Pacific.

Commentary



Want change? Get informed, involved

BY SGT. ROBERT PIPER

I'm a single Marine. I know lots of single Marines who dwell in cells identical to mine in the barracks. We've all heard these mysterious rumblings of a Single Marine Program, but few know exactly what the program does. In fact, most of them don't know who their representative is, but they should.

I don't know - I could be wrong, but there is probably something wrong with this.

If you're a single Marine and would like to see your quality of life improve, this program is the one that will most likely be able to

help and you need to find out who can help you.

Ask questions like, what does the Single Marine Program do, when do they meet and who are our representatives -- and most Marines don't know.

I admit to not knowing the answers to these questions before writing this.

My previous experiences were that the SMP provides young Marines with various activities.

While in Yuma, I watched the SMP sponsor Marines on trips to baseball games, days at the beach, quarterly barracks bashes (huge barbecues) and boss's night at the enlisted club.

Enlisted clubs flourish at places like MCAS Miramar and MCAS Yuma. Heck, the Yuma E-Club is probably the busiest club north of Mexico.

Anyone wonder why? It might be because they are open to anyone over 18 and play something besides country music.

I'm not bashing the good 'ol boys and girls singing about love, beer and American-made cars, because every red-blooded male likes Shania and Faith just a little. But in Yuma and Miramar

they have "salsa" and "hip hop" nights, both of which pack the clubs, while ours remain ghost towns.

So why don't we have these things here? We can.

These topics can be discussed at any SMP meeting.

You want change? Get as many people who think like you to drop in on the next meeting and provide input. These meetings

are open to all who wish to attend and are generally held the first Thursday of each month at the bowling alley conference room.

They'll even offer you some doughnuts and cookies afterward.

So it comes down to knowing who to see and where to go. The word of who, what, where, when and why needs to reach junior Marines, while the individuals who want change need to take the initiative to find out who to talk to. A more proactive way to improving single Marines' lifestyles is the most effective way to bring change.

For information or questions concerning SMP, contact Mr. Rick Finn, SMP coordinator, at 763-0681.

Piper is a staff writer for The Scout.

Commentary

Pendleton's past



During the Korean War, Marilyn Monroe performs for 13,000 Marines of the 1st Marine Division Feb. 16, 1954.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARINE CORPS UNIVERSITY

The Scout

LtGen. Michael W. Hagee
Commanding General
I Marine Expeditionary Force

MajGen. David F. Bice
Commanding General
Marine Corps Base

Director.....Maj. Jeffrey Nyhart
Deputy Director.....Maj. Curtis L. Hill
Press Officer.....2nd Lt. Gregory M. Scott
Managing Editor.....Brian LaMay
Press Chief.....Sgt. Melinda M. Weathers
News Editor.....Sgt. Melinda M. Weathers
Sports Editor.....Will Wassersug
At Ease Editor.....Rod Deutschmann

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This week in Marine Corps history

- Oct. 4, 1776 -- Marines participated in the USS Wasp's capture of a British ship off the coast of New England.

- Oct. 5, 1912 -- Leon, Nicaragua, was captured by Marines after a short battle.

- Oct. 6, 1945 -- Japanese forces in North China surrendered to III Amphibious Corps.

- Oct. 7, 1846 -- Marines of the USS Savannah recaptured San Pedro during the Mexican War.

- Oct. 8, 1899 -- A force of 376 Marines captured the insurgent town of Novaleta, Philippines.

Scouting Around

“Where would you most like to deploy?”

“I want to go straight to Afghanistan.”



LCpl. Curtis Hawkins
1st Marine Division



LCpl. Jaysn Schaener
1st Marine Division



GySgt. Richard Rufin
1st Marine Division



LCpl. Shane Austin
1st Marine Division

“Wherever I'm needed most.”



Sgt. Dan Schrub
1st Marine Division



Sgt. Ayofemi Foster
1st Marine Division

“Nigeria, because it's a place I've always wanted to go.”



HM3 HIDALIA MCCREE

Retired Navy Capt. John C. Enschede addresses an audience at Naval Hospital here Sept. 21. Enschede was a prisoner of war from Aug. 25, 1972, to March 29, 1973, in Hanoi, North Vietnam, and is currently the military liaison for the San Diego Padres.

Former POW says MIA list grew by thousands Sept. 11

JO1 ROBERT M. DYLEWSKI
NAVAL HOSPITAL CAMP PENDLETON

A prominent former prisoner of war said here Sept. 21 on National POW/MIA Recognition Day that the list of Americans missing in action swelled by thousands on Sept. 11.

Echoing President George W. Bush's assertion that the United States was victimized by an act of war when terrorists struck at three East Coast locations, retired Navy Capt. John C. Enschede said victims of the worst terrorism in U.S. history deserve to be counted among those lost in more conventional wars.

"I find it tragically ironic that, in addition to the almost 2,000 MIAs still unaccounted for from the Vietnam War, this year our nation must now add the names of over 5,000 more MIAs from this latest

war in which we are now engaged," Enschede said during Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton's 11th annual ceremony remembering POWs/MIAs. Enschede, currently the military liaison for the San Diego Padres Baseball Club and a POW from Aug. 25, 1972, to March 29, 1973, in Hanoi, North Vietnam, was guest speaker at the ceremony.

"Yes, war was declared against us by fanatical terrorists on Tuesday, September 11, 2001. And, make no mistake about it — it was an act of war," he said.

"However, these most recent MIAs are located upon our own soil, not in some far distant land. The victims of this new battlefield are heroes just as much as those who served, died or are missing from any other war we have ever fought. And, just as the search for the missing proceeds in New York and Washington D.C., the search also con-

tinues halfway around the world for other MIAs."

Each year, the third Friday in September is set aside as National POW/MIA Recognition Day. The hospital's chaplain's office has always held its ceremony that day.

Eleven years ago, the First Class Petty Officers Association at NHCP established the memorial at the hospital with a single tree in remembrance. Today, the site has grown, thanks to more than a decade of work by the hospital's FCPOA representatives. Today, there's a sculpture, plaque, bench and a POW/MIA flagpole. The hospital's FCPOA donated a painting of a hospital corpsman in action assisting a Marine. The memorial testifies to the dedication of the Sailors, Marines, soldiers and airmen who made great sacrifices for our country.

Pins

From Page A1

summer. After Sept. 11, "I made a red, white and blue one and gave it to mom. That's when I got the idea."

Ashley was confused when she first saw the attack unfold on the news.

"At first, I didn't know what was happening," she said. "But after I realized what happened, it scared me. I thought my dad would have to go to war."

Ashley's father, GySgt. Steve Espinosa, is in Okinawa, Japan, with 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, as part of the Unit Deployment Program.

"He's very proud," Kelly said.

"I just think it's good to see kids making a difference," she added. "I'm proud she's doing it. It's fun to watch people and their response."

Ashley's desire to help those shattered by the attacks keeps her working. It also helps her deal with her dad being away, the Young Marines honor graduate said.

"I just really want to help, so I keep doing it," Ashley said.

Ashley has difficulty finding red, white and blue beads with the letters "U," "S" and "A" on them. Anyone willing to donate such beads or who knows where they can be found may call her at (949) 498-6472.

Transit

From Page A1

Willess said she has received only two applications so far, and knows of five others submitted at other base locations.

Many others have inquired about the program, she said.

Members of National Guard and Reserve components serving on active duty also are eligible for the program, which is already in place at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and Marine Corps Air Station Miramar.

Questions or requests for applications can be submitted to the following:

- Mariette Willess, Base Manpower, 725-5634
- Ron Cogbill, Base Manpower, 725-5628
- Tim Nichols, MCCHRO-W, 725-3796
- CWO3 Bernard Harrison, Base MILPERSO, 725-6502
- Joyce Mohrlock, MCCS, 725-5631
- Richard Clock, MCCS, 725-0501
- DK1 Blankers, NavHosp, 725-6103
- Capt. Hollie Kelly, MCAS, 725-3537
- CWO4 Randall Riffel, I MEF, 725-9099
- Frances Herrera-Bosque, MCTSSA, 725-2155
- CWO2 Damin Kelly, 1st Marine Division, 763-1252
- 1stLt. Melanie Hudson, 1st FSSG, 725-5500

Contracting

From Page A1

product quality will suffer.

On the contrary, the new way ensures quality, an RCO official said.

"Now, we are more technically biased," said SSgt. Claudia M. Marquez, a procurement specialist. "Vendors have to submit a technical profile along with their bids."

Another benefit is that vendors can change their prices as many times as they want, Marquez said. Previously, vendors could submit only one bid.

Now, they can see where they stand and submit a lower bid.

Reverse auctions have saved consumers here anywhere from 5 to 50 percent since the RCO initiated them a year ago.

The RCO had a futuristic

approach and "dove in head first," Marquez said. Vendors were hesitant, especially the smaller ones, she said.

"We had to let them know we weren't trying to run them under. We just wanted to save taxpayers' money," she said.

The contracting office started small, she added. "We didn't want to start with a multi-million-dollar contract and have it flop on us."

Now, the office recommends the program for larger contracts.

Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., is the second Marine Corps installation to use reverse auctions.

Marquez soon will travel to other Marine Corps contracting offices to train them on how to use the program and get the best results.

It's an easy program, she said -- one the RCO would like to see implemented Corps-wide.

Taxes

From Page A1

A TSP loan allows a service member to borrow from their own contributions and earnings for general purposes or to purchase a primary residence.

The minimum loan amount is \$1,000. The maximum amount is \$50,000.

A service member will pay interest on the loan -- which,

along with the principal, goes into their TSP account.

Marines can sign up for the TSP only during a TSP "open season." The open season runs through Jan. 31, 2002.

Service members can stop their TSP contributions anytime.

A TSP enrollment form, TSP-U-1, can be downloaded from the TSP Web site, www.tsp.gov, and will be accessible through local Marine administration sections.

Comm.

From Page A1

new system for the past six months, but I think it will improve our communications overall," said Shankle, a Marrero, La., native.

Once the Marines arrive in Egypt, they will set up approximately 60 secure phones and between 200 to 250 computers.

"It will take us about two days to set up the camp," said LCpl. Maximo Reyna, field wireman, A Co. "The first thing we will set up is the gun loop, which connects the camp together so everyone can have communication. Next, we will set up telephone lines and computers. In all, 15 to 25 miles of cable will be laid."

While Marines lay down wire, they'll have "their eyes wide open" after recent terrorist attacks in the United States, Cornell said. They'll also take extra precautions when they land.

"When we deployed to Kenya (as part of the African Crisis Response Initiative last spring), it was a different story

because the terrorist threat was not that high. Now we're going into a country where it's a high possibility we might get attacked," said LCpl. Angus Matata, network administrator, A Co. "With the predeployment brief we received and by watching the news, I think everyone is mentally ready for (Exercise Bright Star-01)."

Every morning during formation, the company commander informs his Marines of the latest news and reminds them to be flexible in case their mission should change.

"They're excited they're going, and I think the experience will be good for them," Cornell said. "At the same time, though, I think they're a little scared because they might be on the other side of a weapon, but I think they're ready."

Once the camp is up and running, their main responsibility is to ensure communication.

"If we lose comm. during a battle, the general won't be able to talk to his commanders and Marines could die," Reyna said. "Without comm., we won't win."

Following Exercise Bright Star-01, A Co. is scheduled to deploy for 2001 Desert Knight - 13 days after they return.

GSM

From Page A1

organized and ready to go. Thirty-seven Marines, plus family members and friends, volunteered for 10 hours to run the car wash.

"We didn't stop all day," said Sgt. Jesus R. Hernandez, contracting NCO. "We were washing cars all day. There were lines of people who wanted to give something to help."

The Marines recommended a \$5 donation; many customers gave \$50 or \$60. Papa John's donated pizzas to the Marines. Many others brought fruit and drinks to help the

Marines as they raised money.

"People felt that they were helping," said Capt. Michael D. Survilas, GSM company commander. "It provided an avenue for people to help."

Wenger, a native New Yorker, has family members who work in New York.

"The few landmarks I think of when I think of New York are Central Park and the World Trade Center," he said. "When I first saw what happened, I was shocked. I felt like I was running around with my head cut off trying to get in touch with my family. I was worried, because I couldn't get through, because all the lines were down."

"A lot of people were affect-

ed financially by this. A lot of people lost their jobs. The money we raised is helping to lift the load off those who are there."

The Marines presented the money to Lorelei Capuzzi, a Red Cross representative, during a ceremony at GSM Co. Sept. 26. The company also thanked retired CWO4 Albert R. Renteria for allowing them to set up shop at Pioneer Services.

"This is an absolutely wonderful response," Capuzzi said. "It will definitely directly benefit those people in New York. The response is overwhelming. But time, money and blood are what we can use most."

Wenger is considering

sending letters to businesses to ask them to donate to the Red Cross.

"I'm trying to rally support from anyone I can," he said. "This was just a first step."

Other Marines with no personal ties to New York participated to support their fellow Americans.

"This is why we joined the military, to support our country," Trejo said.

Other Marines added that it was part of being an American.

"Sometimes we look at the flag and don't realize what it means," Hernandez said. "It's bad that it takes something like this to make us appreciate it."



THE SCOUT

OCTOBER 4, 2001

SECTION B

X-game stars to revisit O'side

OCEANSIDE -- The pier amphitheater will play host to the The Xbox World Championships of Skateboarding and the Vans Championships of BMX today through Sunday.

“Oceanside has long been known as a mecca for core sports.”

Jay E. Wilson
Vans Marketing

The competitions here are the culmination of the Vans Triple Crown Series in their respective sports. An invitations-only event, the Xbox World Championships of Skateboarding will bring together the top competitors from this year's Vans Triple Crown of Skateboarding.

The event will be broadcast Dec. 8 on NBC.

The Vans Championships of BMX, the final leg of the Vans Triple Crown of BMX, will feature the top riders in street, dirt and vert competitions and will be broadcast Dec. 30 on Fox Sports Net.

Both events are free.

See BMX, Page B3

LegoLand sets free admission

CARLSBAD -- Local theme park LegoLand California will offer free admission to all active-duty military personnel Oct. 13-21.

The offer is available only at the theme park entrance -- not through any military ticket offices.

Up to six family and friends can purchase discounted admission tickets of \$20 each when accompanied by a military member.

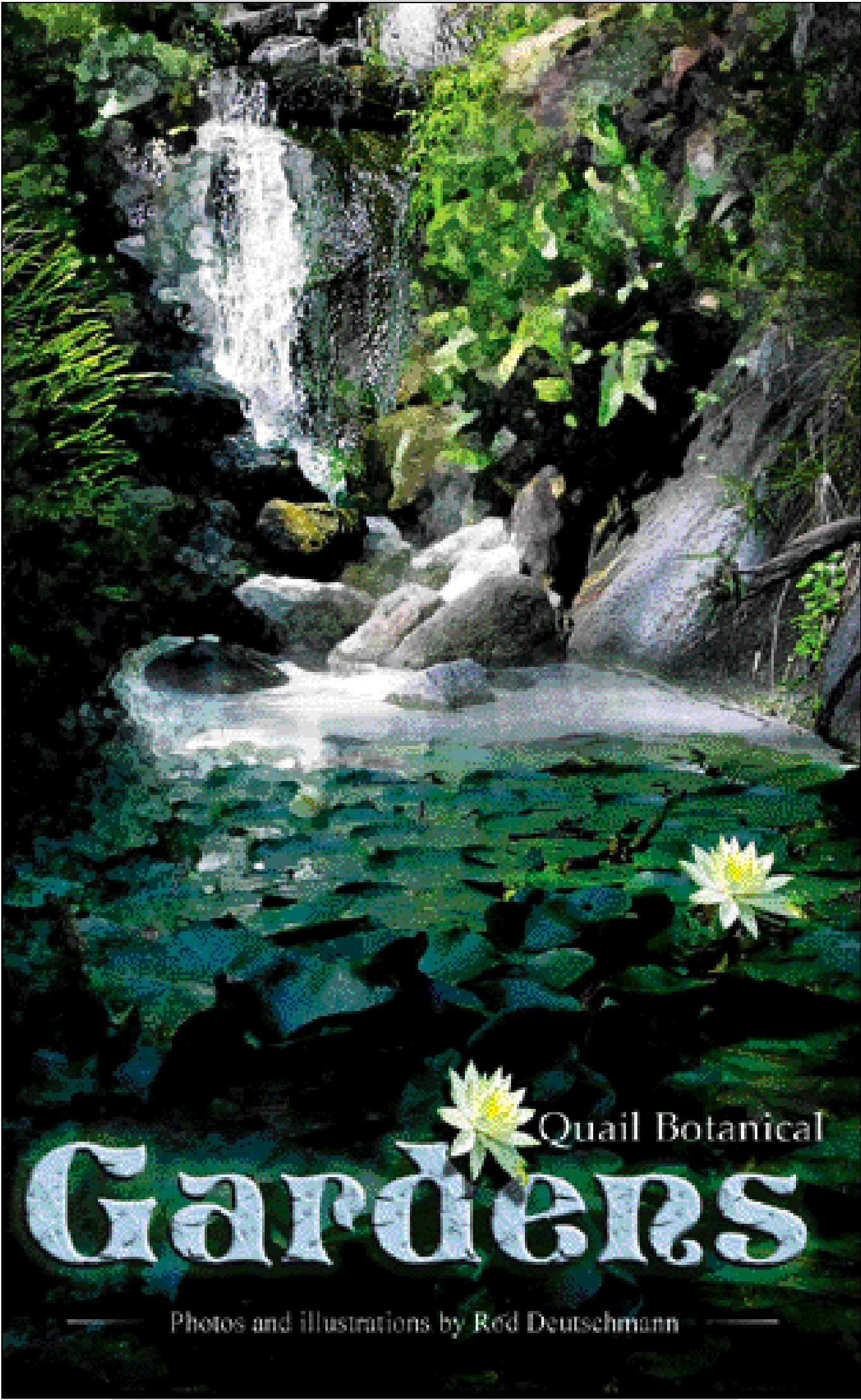
The park, off the Canyon Road exit east of I-5, is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and weekends from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Del Mar welcomes orchid fair

DEL MAR -- Thousands of exotic orchids from a host of Pacific Rim countries will be on display at the San Diego International Orchid Fair Oct. 13 and 14 at the Del Mar Fairgrounds Activity Center.

See Fair, Page B3

Exploring Encinitas



Free nature retreat offered through Oct. 14

ENCINITAS -- To help people cope with and start to heal after the Sept. 11 tragedy, Quail Botanical Gardens is offering free admission through Oct. 14.

“The opportunity to experience the wonder and beauty of nature can serve an important role in the healing process,” said Julian Duval, the gardens’ executive director. “Many people have, in the past, found solace in times of sadness and tragedy by visiting Quail Botanical Gardens.”

The gardens is at 230 Quail Gardens Drive. It is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, see our special report on the gardens, page B4.

Joy Ride:

New action thriller runs out of gas

ROD DEUTSCHMANN
AT EASE EDITOR

Rule No. 1—When being chased by a crazed truck driver who you harassed with your CB, don't sit and cry and wish you could find a phone ... PICK UP THE CB and call for help!

Front Row

But then again, common sense never made it very far into the script of the new thriller Joy Ride.

If it weren't for that and several other GLARING plot holes, Joy Ride could have been a good film.

Instead, we get this weird combination of Steven Spielberg's Duel and the 1986 terror classic The Hitcher, starring Rutger Hauer.

Except both of those films made sense, and when Rutger Hauer threatened to kill someone, they normally ended up dead.

See Ride, Page B3

Scholarship aid found at unlikely source

BONNIE POWELL
DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY

FORT LEE, Va. -- Military families with high-school seniors and college students who are "shopping" for funds to pay the cost of higher education might want to try the commissary.

Applications for the second annual Defense Commissary Agency/Fisher House Foundation Scholarships for Military Children Program will be available Nov. 1 at your local commissary and for download at www.commissaries.com.

See Aid, Page B3

Larger-than-life expeditions fill IMAX dome screen

But experience doesn't measure up to expectations

ROD DEUTSCHMANN
AT EASE EDITOR

Large-format films, such as those presented on the domed screen at the Rueben H. Fleet Science Center, have

always captivated audiences. It's not too hard to imagine why when you consider that these theaters literally surround the audience with a massive sound system and a curved 180 degrees of constant, colorful and moving images that really put them into the picture.

But, problem is, you can't stay there very long. It's sensory overload for sure. The inevitable flight sequences make many people motion sick. And trying to follow any complex type of story is nearly impossible. Hence, the proliferation of documentary films in this format.

The latest foray into this realm, Amazing Journeys, doesn't stray far from the course.

The pretty (seen it before) images wash over the dull narrative as the film progresses from one migratory experience to another.

Unlike many of the better IMAX "educute" films, this one doesn't really offer any real explanations to anything. It seemed the filmmakers simply wanted to capture some pretty images and put them on the screen.

Which I guess isn't bad, but when

they charge as much for admission as a regular film, you expect something better.

The story is full of "what ifs," offering no real insight into the animal migration stories it highlights. Amazing Journeys should have been called Nearly Amazing Animal Photography. But even then -- it's still nothing we haven't seen before.

The film opens this weekend.

Ride

From Page B1

Some great acting and wonderful dialogue, though, combine to make a fresh, fun and sometimes frightening film ... but again, when it comes to common sense, the story totally bails -- so much that it becomes hard to take anything seriously ... even the violence.

Starring Paul Walker, Steve Zahn and Leelee Sobieski, Joy Ride inadvertently takes an interesting look at how two very different cultures and age groups have been driven apart throughout the years.

In the 1970s, CB radios ruled the highways. Everyone had them.

In the late 80s and throughout the 90s, however, cell phones replaced those squawking boxes for

nearly everyone on the highway.

Except, of course, for truckers, who still use them as the only reliable source of highway information.

After all, there is no Global Positioning System or cell phone hotline number that can tell you where "Smokey Bear" has set up that speed trap.

Now introduce the millions of young adults who grew up in the 80s; to them a CB is as foreign as a record player ... maybe more.

It's that culture clash that the story thrives on.

To hear the actors equate their new CB to some "archaic form of internet chatting," well, you can't help but laugh.

It's an intriguing idea, really ... but one that isn't explored in this misfiring film.

Joy Ride opens nationally Friday.

Aid

From Page A1

"The response from military families to the 2001 program was fantastic," said Air Force Maj. General Robert J. Courter Jr., Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) director. "Over 5,000 students applied for the scholarships, and through the generosity of our industry partners, nearly 400 scholarships were awarded. We expect double the applications and even more scholarships in 2002."

Qualified sons and daughters of U.S. military identification card holders, including ac-

tive-duty and retired military personnel and Guard/reserves, may apply for the \$1,500 scholarships. Eligibility of applicants, including survivors of deceased members, will be determined using the DoD Identification Card Directive. The deadline for filing applications is Feb. 5, 2002.

Two major changes are in store for the 2002 program: Students will not have to show I.D. at the commissary when turning in their applications, and applicants who don't live near a commissary may mail their applications to their closest commissary. Student eligibility will be verified through the Defense Enrollment and

Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) before scholarships are awarded. Sponsors should ensure their children are enrolled in DEERS prior to applying for a scholarship.

The Fisher House Foundation is administering the Scholarships for Military Children program through a professional scholarship evaluation company. Fisher House is known for building and donating fully furnished comfort homes near military medical facilities.

A permanent information page for the Scholarships for Military Children Program has been added to www.commissaries.com. Look for the link under "What's New."



Fair

From Page A1

Sponsored by Quail Botanical Gardens, the Orchid Fair will feature lectures and classes for those who want to learn more about the flowers.

Orchids are one of the world's oldest-known species of flowers -- with more variation than any other plant group. Orchids grow on every continent except Antarctica, in climates ranging from mountain regions to low-lying marshes.

Admission to the show is \$2.

BMX

From Page B1

"Vans is excited to bring the Triple Crown Series back to Oceanside," said Jay E. Wilson, vice president of global marketing for Vans. "The city has long been known as a mecca for core sports, and these events offer fans a chance to see top competitors in two of the final skateboarding and BMX events of the 2001 season."

The lineup reads like a "who's who" list of skateboarders. It includes stars such as Geoff Rowley, Willy Santos, Bob Burnquist, Steve Caballero, Kristian Svitak, Andy Macdonald, Eric Koston and Cara Beth Burnside.

BMX riders include Dennis McCoy, Tim "Fuzzy" Hall, Cory Nastazio, Dave Mirra and Ryan Nyquist.

Overall prize money for the two events totals more than \$235,000.

Events begin each day at 9 a.m.



All-Base basketball



WILLIAM WASSERSUG

HMMT-164's Antoine Williams goes strong to the hoop against Hq&Spt.'s Alvin Clark during Hq&Spt.'s title-clinching win.

Hq&Spt. takes advantage of technical, makes free throws that turn game

WILLIAM WASSERSUG
SPORTS EDITOR

The mistakes that thwarted Headquarters and Support Battalion, Marine Corps Base's hopes of an early wrap-up of the All-Base basketball crown Sept. 27 didn't return Friday in a rematch with Marine Medium Helicopter Training Squadron 164 at the 43 Area Gym. But deja vu nearly occurred anyway.

HMMT-164 did return -- and for the second time in 24 hours erased a sizable halftime deficit to take the lead in the "if" game.

But this time, Hq&Spt. had the last laugh. Hq&Spt. made its free throws down the stretch, played solid defense and ratcheted up its rebounding in a 54-46 victory that gave the winners-bracket champs their second consecutive base title. But they had to weather a tie score

in the final minute to pull it off.

A day earlier, poor free-throw shooting and defensive woes saw Hq&Spt.'s 17-point halftime deficit slip away in a 60-53 loss.

Despite solving those problems, the "if" game victory didn't come any easier. Hq&Spt. came close to repeating its second-half crash of the previous day.

Hq&Spt. took a 31-22 lead into halftime and upped it to 34-22 on a three-pointer by Derek Pfeiffer (9 points) on the first possession of the second half. Then the similarities began.

Hq&Spt.	54
HMMT-146	46

HMMT's Ramon Mason drained a trey to cut the lead to 34-25. Nine minutes later, Mason's third three-pointer of the half gave HMMT-164 a 44-39 lead.

For a moment, Hq&Spt. looked stunned.

Then it turned the game around, holding HMMT-164 scoreless for almost eight minutes while fighting back to take

a 46-44 lead with 1:36 left in the game.

All-Marine Gregory Nelson quickly became a big factor after HMMT-164 took the lead.

Nelson, a small but ferocious rebounder, had been held in check by HMMT's big front line

of All-Marine Kenny Evans and Jon Nelson.

In crunchtime, Nelson stepped up and hit the boards.

See **Champs**, Page C5

Hoops tourney one to remember for the ages

WILLIAM WASSERSUG
SPORTS EDITOR

I can't say I was surprised that Hq&Spt. came back and won the title game after handing over a 17-point halftime lead the

Poppin' off

Having covered basketball at Camp Pendleton for 10 years now, I must say this season's championship was among the best I can remember.

The two games between champion Headquarters and Support Battalion, Marine Corps Base, and HMMT-164 were both the type of games that have you holding your breath down the stretch.

day before, but when HMMT-164 came back from nine down in the finale, I was beginning to wonder --

See **Poppin'**, Page C6

Miracles happen: HMMT rallies, forces 'if' game

WILLIAM WASSERSUG
SPORTS EDITOR

Marine Medium Helicopter Training Squadron 164 faced a daunting task in the second half of the All-Base basketball finals Sept. 27 at the 43 Area Gym: find a way to overcome a 17-point halftime deficit to a Headquarters and Support Battalion, Marine Corps Base

team that features two All-Armed Forces basketball veterans, Tim Wilson and Barry Celestine, along with Gregory

HMMT-146	60
Hq&Spt.	53

Nelson, one of the league's best players.

The mission: rally and force an "if" game Friday or gra-

ciously accept the second-place trophy.

Somehow, HMMT-164 stepped up to the task, outscoring Hq&Spt. 21-2 over the first seven minutes of the second half on the way to a 60-53 win.

Ramon Mason, who led all scorers with 16 points, started the barrage with a three-pointer from the corner on HMMT's first possession.

See **HMMT**, Page C5

Cannon Cockers croak beneath weight of Williams, Evans

BRIAN LA MAY
MANAGING EDITOR

Eleventh Marine Regiment primetime players Darryl Perkins and Tyme Hodges croaked in crunchtime, partly because Antoine Williams scoured the court with an energetic, smothering brand of defense that highlighted the closing minutes Sept. 19 in

the All-Base losers-bracket finals.

But Williams' offense was also pivotal for Marine Medium Heli-

HMMT-146	66
11th Marines	54

copter Training Squadron 164 down the stretch. He scored 11 of his 18 points in the final 11:28 to

spearhead a 66-54 win that eliminated the Cannon Cockers.

Kenny Evans also shined for HMMT-164, scoring a game-high 22 points in only his second game back from a float with the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit.

See **Defense**, Page C6



WILLIAM WASSERSUG

Hq&Spt.'s Derrick Johnson, 21, attempts to block a shot by HMMT-164's Antoine Williams during HMMT-164's 60-53 win Sept. 27. Williams finished with 13 points.



WILLIAM WASSERSUG

Maintenance Bn.'s Aron Stevenson lines up a practice shot at the Camp Pendleton Archery Range on Vandegrift Boulevard next to the paintball course.

Maintenance archer a long way from sticks

Stevenson's Olympic dreams stem from days when he'd make his own bows and arrows

WILLIAM WASSERSUG
SPORTS EDITOR

When he was a 4-year-old growing up in rural Lake George, N.Y., 1st Maintenance Battalion's Cpl. Aron Stevenson used to pick up twigs, sticks and anything else he could use as an arrow. He propelled them with the homemade bow he built with bigger sticks and string.

Today, Stevenson, 22, plays with bows and arrows far more technologically advanced and expensive than his crude boyhood toy.

His love of shooting, however, hasn't changed.

Stevenson is now an accomplished archer with hopes of competing in the next Olympic Games.

His quest started July 14 at the California State Games at the Olympic Training Center in Chula Vista. Stevenson finished first in his division, earning him an invitation to higher competition covering the Southwest. A victory there would send him to Nationals. The next step would be the Olympic trials.

Stevenson competed in the Recursive FITA Olympic Division, named for the style of equipment used in competition.

"If I win, I'd move to nationals," Stevenson said about the next level. That's where all the sections go

head to head. From Nationals, the top 20 archers advance to the Olympic trials, a five-day tournament.

By the time they're done, three men, three women and three alternates will remain to represent the United States.

Stevenson hopes he can be one of them.

"It's going to take some work, but it's possible," he said. "There are some real good shooters out there. It's not something just handed to you."

If not this time, he'll keep working.

See **Archer**, Page C6

Youth Football Roundup

Ages 5-7

Broncos vs. Jaguars

Derek Smith ran for a touchdown. Darren Romero nabbed several flags on defense for the Broncos.

Chris McKinley had a 30-yard run for the Jaguars. Austin Dean had two game-saving tackles.

Dolphins vs. Ravens

Charles Denkins scored for the Dolphins. Matthew Whiple led a solid blocking effort by the Dolphins.

Jake Portillo had a sack. Jacob Saenz blocked well for the Ravens.

Buccaneers vs. Jets

Henry Pollard stopped several touchdowns with key pulls. Jon Lafayetts led the defensive effort.

Jacob Aylesworth had an excellent game on the offensive line. Tyler Yates had a touchdown saving tackle.

C Division

Ravens 22, Buccaneers 14

Alex Carroll played outstanding defense and hauled in a 30-yard reception. Zane Tanner snapped the ball well and had an excellent game blocking for the Ravens.

Tyler Burman played well at

quarterback and kept the Bucs pinned with his excellent kicks. Blake Roa blocked well up the middle to help a solid rushing game.

Jets 14, Broncos 0

Al Holcomb had six tackles and two touchdowns. Andy Hernandez had two catches for 50 yards.

Zack Deacon had a 10-yard, extra-point catch and a flag pull. Djavon Coleman pulled four flags and had two sacks.

Jerry Hamlin pulled three flags.

B Division

Broncos 44, 49ers 0

Richard Kulakawski prevented a touchdown and played strong offense. Hunter Petroskic stopped three consecutive plays in an all-around good defensive effort for the 49ers.

A Division

Packers 22, Giants 0

David Owens caught two touchdowns and had two interceptions. Andrew Tudor had six tackles for losses and played a flawless game at quarterback to lead the Packers.

Racquetball in progress



Tom Woodard of I MEF readies a return against SOI's Tony Martinez during opening-round action of the All-Base racquetball tourney Tuesday at the 52 Area Fitness Center.

JOHN RAIFSNIDER

Hunters Forum on despite uncertainty of hunt

JOHN RAIFSNIDER
STAFF WRITER

A Hunters Forum will proceed as scheduled Saturday at the Joint Reception Center -- even though the scheduled opening of archery deer season this weekend was uncertain at press time.

Hunting of any sort basewide has been shelved since Sept. 11, in part because of manpower issues stemming from the "increased installation security posture," said Maj. Curtis L. Hill, a base spokesman.

Vic Yoder, who administers the base hunting program, expects to know later this week whether hunting will be allowed on base this weekend. Hunters can call the base game war-

dens, 725-3360, on Friday to find out.

"We've been closed since the (terrorist attacks) as far as hunting goes," Yoder said. "We have the Hunters Forum this weekend -- which was scheduled before (Sept. 11). Hopefully we'll have all the information we need by then."

Yoder encouraged hunters to attend the forum to discuss any hunting-related issues.

If base officials decide to forego or scale back hunting this season, Camp Pendleton would join a long list of military installations in California that have curtailed the hunt, Yoder said.

"Other bases in the state have either stopped hunting or narrowed their hunter capacities," Yoder said. "Fort Hunter Liggett has already halted all

hunting."

Should a season-long ban on hunting result, Yoder says hunters shouldn't expect huge herds of deer next year.

"Deer have the ability to adapt to their conditions," Yoder said. "I'm not a biologist, but I understand that when there is less forage habitat or when there hasn't been enough rain in an area -- like we've had here -- the deer might only have one fawn."

"In years when there has been a lot of rain or it rained late into the summer, and there is lots of grass in their forage area, then the deer might have two fawn. It's kind of an internal mechanism that controls how many fawn the deer give birth to."

Champs

From Page C1

"I knew I had to rebound," Nelson said. "They had two big guys. I love playing against Kenny Evans. He's an excellent player."

"Yesterday, rebounds did us in. They killed us. Today I told the guys before the game that if they took care of the outside, I'd take care of the inside."

Jon Nelson (12 points) gave Gregory Nelson credit.

"He's a big little man," he said. "He goes in and does the dirt. He's tough."

Greg Nelson said Hq&Spt. never worried about a second collapse, even after HMMT-164 made its comeback.

"Not at all," Nelson said when asked if the team was nervous. "We have veteran players. We knew we had to withstand their rally and overcome it."

The offensive momentum turned when Derrick Johnson came up with a steal and lobbed a pass upcourt to Tim Wilson. Wilson scored easily to cut the lead to 44-41.

Barry Celestine, who led all scorers with 18 points, including a 6-for-7 effort from the line, hit one of two free throws to cut the lead to 44-42.

Pfeiffer finished a break to make it 44-44, then Celestine connected twice more to give Hq&Spt. a 46-44 lead.

With the lead and Nelson controlling the boards, Hq&Spt. got the ball inside and drew fouls instead of throwing up bombs like it had the day before.

The inside game became the turning point with 47 seconds left and the score tied at 46. Nelson took a pass from Wilson inside and went up for a shot.

As he leaped, HMMT's Antoine Williams went for the block

and drew a foul.

Upset by the call, Williams walked across the floor and out of the gym, drawing a technical.

Celestine made both free throws and Nelson followed by making both shots from the foul line, giving Hq&Spt. a 50-46 lead.

"Smooth (Celestine) hit some key free throws," Wilson said. "That tech changed the game. It put us up four and we never looked back."

Jon Nelson echoed the thought.

"Williams felt it was a clean block," Nelson said. "He ran off the court to cool off. If he had stayed and got into it with the official, he gets the T anyway. It's part of the game. Sometimes the ball doesn't roll your way."

Gregory Nelson said the better performance from the stripe was no accident.

"Yesterday it (free-throw shooting) was horrible," he said.

"It was a factor. Today we made them down the stretch when we had to. Our defense in the last five minutes was much better too."

Nelson said Wilson's defense in particular was outstanding.

"Wilson did a great job on their three-point shooter (Mason)," Nelson said. "He did a great job and shut him down. This was a great win."

Wilson had nothing but praise for HMMT.

"They have to be commended," Wilson said. "That team has no quit in them. They keep coming at you."



WILLIAM WASSERSUG

HMMT-164's Jon Nelson attempts to block Hq&Spt.'s Derek Pfeiffer's fadeaway jumper in the second half of Hq&Spt.'s title win.

HMMT

From Page C1

HMMT's answer to Hq&Spt.'s All-Armed Forces stars was one of its own, Kenny Evans.

After Mason's trey, Evans scored the next four points to cut the lead to 38-30.

Evans, who returned from float at the beginning of the playoffs, finished with 11 points but made the big difference on the boards, where he dominated.

Hq&Spt.'s smaller front line. Evans finished with double-digit rebounds, including five on one sequence in the first half. Evans had the ball under the rim, missed and picked up his own rebounds four times before he knocked down the two. Evans was also effective as a passer, especially on the break.

On the other side, HMMT-164 shut down Celestine and Wilson, who were limited to one point apiece in the second half - a surprising stat considering that Wilson is known as one of the Marine Corps' all-time scorers.

HMMT's Barney James said stopping Wilson was a big part of the plan.

"He's a big guy," said James, who finished with 12 points. "We wanted to make him put it on the floor and not let him take shots. He's well-known here. You have to respect the man."

James added that Evans indeed was the other part of the equation.

"Coach told us at the half that we had to stop relying on the threes and get inside to Gunny Evans and Nelson. Gunny Evans is like Charles Barkley out there, the round mound of rebound. We missed his presence during the season."

Hq&Spt. seemingly took control midway through the first half with a 16-3 run that upped a 16-12 Hq&Spt. advantage to 17 points, 32-15, with five min-

utes left.

In the opening minutes, Wilson looked like he was going to take over, scoring his team's first eight points, including a pair of three-pointers.

He was barely heard from again, finishing with nine points.

While falling behind, HMMT started shooting threes almost every time downcourt. They weren't falling.

"We were trying to get it all back with one shot," James said. "We shouldn't have been doing that."

Wilson gave credit to HMMT-164 but said his team could have played better.

"As a team we haven't been challenged during the season," Wilson said. "At the end of the

first half, we were up 17. It was hard to keep up our intensity. I think we tried to coast and they're too good to do that. They have some veteran players over there. Kenny Evans, (Antoine) Williams. They can play. You can't coast against a team like that."

Wilson thought HMMT's focus on defense in the second half was the key.

"My shots weren't falling," he said. "Same with Smooth (Celestine). We weren't getting clear looks. The wide zone they were playing worked. Every time we got the ball, they were there. We didn't get good looks."

James agreed.

"We weren't getting back on

defense in the first half," James said. "In the second half, we put pressure up top and didn't let them work around for open shots. It was exactly the opposite of the first half."

HMMT's George Howard (6 points) said defense sparked the turnaround.

"We stepped it up," Howard said. "I think Will (Williams) really stepped it up on defense. We all did. We finally figured out that offense comes from defense."

After falling behind 42-40, Hq&Spt. rallied to take a 45-42 lead before James nailed a trey to tie.

Celestine gave Hq&Spt. a 47-45 lead, driving through the middle before Mason's three gave HMMT-164 the lead for good.

In the final minutes, Hq&Spt. had chances to stay close, but couldn't convert from the free-throw line, missing all five shots from the stripe in the final two minutes. It finished 5-for-13.

Trailing by nine with 34 seconds left, Nelson gave Hq&Spt. a last gasp with a three that made it 59-53. Two more three-point attempts missed in the waning seconds.

"We missed a lot of free throws, Wilson said. "You can't win championships shooting like that."

James said that despite the big halftime deficit, his team was never worried.

"We've been like that all season," he said. "We put our best when we need it most. We weren't down at all. Everybody knew we still had a chance."

"During the season we were behind these guys by 21 and we only lost by five."

We figured we could work through it and come back."

Wilson thought fans at the gym got a treat.

"This," he said, "is what the fans paid to see."



WILLIAM WASSERSUG

HMMT-164's Kenny Evans, left, and Jon Nelson battle for a long rebound during the first of two championship games.

2001 All-Base basketball All-Tournament team

Gregory Nelson	Hq&Spt.
Barry Celestine	Hq&Spt.
Tim Wilson	Hq&Spt.
George Howard	HMMT-164
Kenny Evans	HMMT-164
Antoine Williams	HMMT-164
Shawn Brome	H&S
Maurice Merrells	H&S
Darryl Perkins	11th Marines
Joseph Gonzales	MCTSSA

Poppin'

From Page C1

-- especially because of the way HMMT-164 shut down Hq&Spt's scoring tandem of Barry Celestine and Tim Wilson, two of Camp Pendleton's more prolific scorers over the years. The duo was held to one point in the second half in the first game. It was the NBA equivalent of shutting down Allan Iverson and Kobe Bryant while playing together.

HMMT certainly didn't embarrass itself.

"We played our hearts out," HMMT's Jon Nelson said after the championship loss.

That intensity almost helped HMMT fulfill a prediction it made in the first round after a heart-thumping 50-48 win over 9th Communication Battalion.

"We're going to be the

champs," HMMT's Ramon Mason said after that win.

"This is our tournament to lose," HMMT coach Marrell Reynolds said. "You can quote that from the coach."

That confidence brought back memories of 1st Marine Regiment quarterback Terence Canova a few years back when he predicted his team would win a title if the team made the playoffs. Canova and 1st Marines pulled it off.

Hq&Spt. had a precedent when it comes to championships.

This season's title was the fourth for Gregory Nelson. Tim Wilson couldn't remember how many he's won, but said this one had extra significance.

"This one is special to me," Wilson said. "It's my last one. I'm on terminal in 29 days. This is it for me. I'm glad to be going out on top."

I'm glad to see "Chill", as he's

known around the Marine Corps go out on top too.

He's been one of my favorite players to watch pretty much since I've been here, a good guy who always seems to know just what to say, win or lose.

If you haven't heard, the West Coast Regional Basketball Championships are back at Camp Pendleton this season.

The tournament, played at Twentynine Palms last season, will be Oct. 15-19 at the 21 Area Gym.

Varsity Sports Director Chris Crawford said coaches should be selected very soon.

Crawford also said that tryouts for the Camp Pendleton Varsity basketball team will be Oct. 20 at 2 p.m. at the 21 Area Gym. All interested athletes are invited to try out.

Crawford already has tournaments scheduled for November.

Great game

Former 7th Motors Golden Helmet winner David Minnich had a career day Saturday, leading Washington State (4-0) to a 48-21 win over Arizona (3-1).

Minnich ran for 120 yards on 30 carries with four touchdowns. Minnich scored three times on the ground and added another on a 29-yard catch-and-run in the Cougars' 28-point first quarter.

So far this season, Minnich has run for 394 yards on 92 carries with four touchdowns. He also has seven catches for 83 yards and a touchdown. The receiving totals already surpass his 55 yards from last season, and his five touchdowns are one more than a year ago.

In Denver, Mike Anderson didn't fare as well in a 20-13 loss to Baltimore. Anderson was held to 34 yards on 12 carries. Backup Olandis Gary didn't do much better, with 16 yards on six carries.

Welcome back

I've heard people complaining about Michael Jordan returning to the NBA. Personally, I hope he does well. The NBA needs him.

With the quality of play in the NBA and TV ratings faltering, Jordan is just the player to improve both. As a teacher and role model, Jordan's influence and fundamentals will resonate through the league. As for TV, people like Jordan, and they're going to watch him.

The fact that he's donating his entire first year salary to relief funds for terrorist victims just shows he's not just in it for the money.

Just how much is the NBA struggling lately? Well, I read a story last week in the Boston Globe about how Celtics general manager Chris Wallace recently drove through the suburbs of Boston looking for driveways with basketball hoops.

When he found them, he'd

knock on the door, introduce himself, hand out Celtics colored basketball nets and tell people he hopes to see them at the arena.

If someone wasn't home, he'd leave a note.

The idea is actually a nice way to get back into the public eye one person at a time, but I remember a few years ago, even after the Larry Bird era that Celtics tickets were revered because they were so hard to get. My, how things have changed.

Defense

From Page C1

But Williams was the Cannon Cockers' biggest bugaboo, according to 11th Marines coach Camilo Zamora, whose lingering memory of the game was a possession in the first half when Williams grabbed three consecutive offensive rebounds in typically tireless fashion.

"He killed us most of the game with his rebounding of second, third and fourth shots," Zamora said. "He outthusted us. I'd say (Williams) and (Ramon Mason, 12 points) were the difference in the game."

Zamora had hoped Hodges and Perkins would make the difference for 11th Marines. They led the Cannon Cockers with 17 points apiece; but Hodges scored only two points after halftime, and Perkins was held scoreless over the last 13 minutes.

The Cannon Cockers suffered

four turnovers in the last four minutes, two of them by Perkins in the final 1:30. Williams forced two of those turnovers, swarming the court late in the fourth quarter as if powered by first-quarter-fresh legs.

"He was pumped up and we needed it. It was do or die right here," Evans said about Williams' play.

Evans led all scorers despite sitting out the final four minutes of the first half. His absence coincided with a 15-3 Cannon Cocker spurt including 13 unanswered points -- over the final three minutes, cutting a 16-point HMMT lead to four points, 35-31, at intermission.

"At halftime, we were down, because we came out and jumped on 'em early, then saw that lead go down like that," Williams said. "We didn't come this far to lose, so in the second half, we turned on the intensity, baseline to baseline, fullcourt," Williams said.

HMMT was not only down at

halftime - but seemingly beset by dissension. A couple of players angrily groaned - and at least one shouting match erupted - about substitutions late in the half that removed Evans, Mason and one other starter, Jon Nelson. The substitutions triggered 11th Marines' late burst, led by Hodges, who drained two three-pointers and assisted a bucket by J. Seals during the streak. Hodges also had two steals among five HMMT turnovers in the last three minutes.

"I was kind of upset with the substitutions," Williams confessed. "(Coach Marrell Reynolds) has been making pretty good calls down the line, but when you take out a bunch of hot hands, put in a bunch of cold legs, and that lead starts going down, people are gonna start pointing fingers."

"When you've got a lead like that, you've gotta kill 'em with the running clock, because in the second half, that clock is your ally," Evans added.

The collapse in the last three minutes was the only blemish in

an otherwise dominant first half for HMMT. After a Perkins tip-in gave the Cannon Cockers a 2-0 lead, HMMT scored 11 unanswered points, prompting an 11th Marines timeout.

HMMT made its first five three-point attempts, including one by Barney James that made it 17-4 with 14 minutes left. Mason had three of his four treys in the half.

HMMT continued to bury three-pointers in the second half for a total of eight in the game. Williams had two of them; the second came from behind a pick and gave HMMT a nine-point lead, 61-52, with 2:55 left.

At that point, Perkins, who drilled two treys early in the half, had been silent for more than 10 minutes.

He stayed silent against HMMT's trapping 2-3 zone.

"I knew he could stick that three down," Williams said about Perkins. "We didn't want to give him too much room."

Evans made things tough at the other end for 11th Marines by

pounding his way to the free-throw line, where he went 9-for-13 -- better than 11th Marines' team effort of 6-for-10.

Handling Evans and Nelson was too tough with HMMT also drilling three-pointers, Zamora lamented.

"We started to get tired," Zamora said about the defensive drain. "Our guards were having to double-team out front,



LCPL. ANTHONY BLANCO

HMMT-164's Kenny Evans, left, and 11th Marines' Darryl Perkins hit the floor after battling for a rebound in HMMT's 66-54 win.

Archer

From Page C1

"If I don't make the Olympics, I'll definitely be in the next one," Stevenson said. "I'll give the guys a run for their money."

Aronson has experience to back his claim.

"I've shot with Rod White and Butch Johnson," he said. "They're both on the Olympic team. I've beat them both. It all comes down to who puts in the most effort and who's having the best day."

Being a Marine, Stevenson doesn't have a lot of practice time.

"I don't get a whole lot of time off through the Marine Corps," he said. "And I have a second job at an archery shop in Miramar."

When he finds time to prac-

tice, Stevenson, a barracks resident, shoots at work and at the recently renovated archery range on Vandegriff Boulevard next to the paintball park.

It's hardly the rigorous routine you'd expect from an aspiring Olympian.

"I usually shoot a couple of hours one day a week, usually Sundays," he said. "Once you learn, you don't forget. It's like riding a bicycle."

Stevenson says the benefits to his craft are worth his time.

"I get a good discount at the store," he said, adding that he gets 40 percent savings off the retail price on equipment. "That's a great bonus. The bow I just bought was \$1,250 itself. And I have another \$2,000 worth of accessories."

In total, Stevenson, who has never taken a formal lesson, said he has about \$4,000 in archery equipment.

That's a big step forward

from the homemade bow he made at 4 and the \$10 recursive arrow his dad bought him when he was 5.

"My dad saw I had an interest and he bought me a recursive bow," Stevenson said. "I was excited. I got pretty good with it. I used to shoot it for hours and hours. I'd go out flinging arrows. Half the time I wouldn't find them until I mowed the lawn."

Stevenson got his first taste of competition at age 9.

"I was at a Boy Scout camp," he said. "It wasn't actually a competition. You could qualify for badges, and they also had the Silverbow Archery Award from the Camp Archery Association. I qualified for the archery badge. Then I found out about the Silverbow award. When I finished, they told me I had set a new camp record."

The award sparked interest in more competitive endeavors.

In 1994, Stevenson finished second in an International Bowhunting Organization tournament. He still wears the belt he won from that competition.

Later that year, he finished first in his division in a New York state championship tournament, he said.

He successfully defended the title for three of the next four years. The year he missed, 1996, he won the Massachusetts state title.

Most of the competition involved 3D targets. The 3D style is his favorite.

Stevenson says performances in competition even earned him a scholarship.

"When I get out of the Marine Corps, I'm going to go to college at Hocking Technical College in Ohio," he said. "I won a \$15,000 scholarship for that school at that tournament."

Since moving to Camp Pendleton 3 1/2 years ago,

Stevenson has competed regularly in California.

When he's not competing, Stevenson likes to teach archery. He said some of his students have improved a lot.

"People would come into the archery shop shooting 230s and 250s out of 300," he said. "After I helped them, they'd come back shooting 290 or higher."

He's hoping to get a level-two archery coach card soon. The card would allow him to be paid for teaching.

Stevenson is also an avid hunter and camper.

When he hunts, he prefers bowhunting to rifles, but occasionally will pick up a rifle.

"I'm a pretty good shot," he said. "The rifle is too easy. If I see it, I hit it. The bow is a more primitive style of hunting. It's more challenging."

"The average shot with a bow is about 50 yards. At that

distance, they know you're there. The success rate for hunters is only about 10 percent."

While he loves the hunt, Stevenson enjoys mingling with nature just as much.

"It's not just the hunt," he said. "It's being a part of wilderness, getting away from the concrete and the traffic. I do a lot of camping and hiking, too."

Being in the woods gives Stevenson memories of home.

"Where I live, we're by the mountains," he said. "There's a lot more game there. Sometimes I'll look out my window and there will be a deer in the back yard. I love to watch them. Sometimes I go out and feed them. It's nice to wake up in the morning and see them in the yard. That's why I'm going back."

Military Marketplace

THE SCOUT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2001 C-7

The deadline for submitting Military Marketplace ads is 10 a.m. Friday the week before publication. Military Marketplace ad forms may be filled out during normal working hours at the Joint Public Affairs Office, Building 1160 (Base Headquarters). Ads must be submitted in person and will be accepted only from active-duty and retired military personnel, their family members and Camp Pendleton civil service workers. Ads are free and will appear one time only unless re-submitted.

Military Marketplace may be used only for non-commercial classified ads containing items of personal property offered by and for individuals authorized to use this service. Such ads must represent incidental exchanges not of a sustained business nature. Ads are run on a first-come, first-served, space-available basis.

Marketplace guidelines: Please exercise courtesy when phoning marketplace advertisers.

Wanted

Old military items, American, German, Japanese, Iraqi, etc. WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam. Flags, uniforms, swords, helmets, etc. (949) 366-5303.

Roommate to share 4BR house in Ivey Ranch. Mesa Drive and College Blvd. No smoking/pets please. Female preferred. 439-1597.

Clarinet. 385-0411.

Roommate to share 3Br house in Rancho del Oro home. Near Mesa and College. Furnished or unfurnished. Pool, jacc., \$600/mo. util. included. 521-5115.

Garage/yard sales

Multi-family garage sale. Many items to choose from. Oct. 6, 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Lamplighter MHP, 4600 N. River Rd. Oceanside. 754-1919.

Moving sale. Furniture, uniforms, clothing, kids and more. Quality items. 203 Johnson Ct., apt. D, base housing, South Mesa II. Sat. Oct. 6. 7 a.m.-noon. 430-2195.

Garage sale. Lots of kids clothes and toys. 209 Los Padres Dr. 8 a.m.-11 a.m. Oct. 6. 385-0113.

Uniforms

Enlisted dress blue blouse, 35L, \$50. Blues pants, 30L, \$20. "C" shirt, ssgt chevrons, creighton and basic issue, \$5/ea. Enlisted dress blue cover, 6 5/8, \$15. 430-5109.

Furniture

Queensize hide-a-bed, ex. cond., \$100. 729-6985.

Outside furniture, wrought iron table and chairs, very nice, \$90. Other misc. items. 729-6985.

Antique 4-pc. bedroom set. Full size bed, vanity, stool, chest of drawers, \$895/firm. 941-0968.

Girl's 7-pc. white French provincial bedroom set, \$775. 941-0968.

Bedroom set. Pine, solid wood, 2 dressers, 1 long, 1 tall, 2 nightstands. Make offer. (909) 461-0039.

1 yr. old couch/loveseat, scotchguarded, pillow-back, very comfortable, olive green w/burgundy accents, \$750/OBO. 430-7857.

Livingroom set, coffee table, nightstands, 5-pc. bedroom set, decorative rugs, microwave, lamps, bookshelves, everything is

wood. Reasonable prices, OBO. We deliver. 723-5203.

Vacuum, plants and fake plants, diningroom table and chairs, stereo, bread-maker, white plastic shelves. We deliver. 723-5203.

Leather recliner. Beige, swivel for men or women. Not a big bulky chair. Good cond., \$35. 439-5945.

Queensize bed with boxsprings. \$40/OBO. 435-9904.

Sofa sleeper, queensize with set of sheets, 4 matching chair cushions, \$150 takes all. 721-1317.

1950s cowboy bunk beds, includes bedboard, slats and 2 matt., kids dresser, multi-color, room for TV. 385-0712.

Bar table, stools, \$15. 2 country kitchen style chairs, \$15. 430-0643.

Appliances

G.E. refrigerator. 18 cu. ft., ex. cond., \$100. 941-2350.

G.E. heavy duty gas dryer, all cycles, good cond., \$50. 941-2350.

Sanyo microwave. White, 1.1 cu. ft. with turntable, 1 yr. old., \$35. 439-5945.

Maytag elec. dryer, \$100/OBO. (909) 303-9413.

Bread machine. Ex. cond., \$50. 430-0643.

Homes for sale

Calavera Hills, Carlsbad. Remodeled 4BR/2.5BA. Offers between \$279-\$286,000 entertained. On MLS. Beautiful home, large yard, comm. pool/spa. 434-6365.

Home for rent. Carlsbad, Calavera Hills. Remodeled 4BR/2.5BA, lg. yd., comm. pool/spa, gardener paid, \$1,600/mo. Carpet, paint. 434-6365.

Room for rent in 4BR home in Oceanside. \$450 plus utils. Near back gate. 758-6801.

Automobiles

1992 Ford Explorer XLT 4.0, 4x4, pwr everything, tow cargo pkg, \$1,000 stereo, \$5,700/OBO. 583-6236.

1997 Limited Edition Ford Explorer. 33K, leather, priv. glass, manual, warr., CD player, alarm, gold ext., \$15,000/OBO. 385-4527.

1992 Chevy Blazer S10 Tahoe LT. 2VD, 4.3L, auto., AC, CC, PS, roof rack, spare tire, \$5,000. 940-1458.

1988 Chry New Yorker. Brown, AM/FM cass., leather, \$2,000/OBO. 724-2657.

1998 Acura. 3.2L sedan. Blue w/charcoal leather int., all power, AM/FM/cass./CD, 40K w/ext. warr. to 100K. \$21,500. 439-5945.

1971 VW van. Looks/runs good. Yellow, all orig. \$2,500. (909) 600-7102.

1995 Volvo 850. 5-sp., dark blue/gray, CD changer, rear spoiler, 72K, \$9,400. 385-0136.

1992 Chevy Lumina. 4-dr., Euro coupe, AC, red, tires and brakes, 130K, \$2,900/OBO. 430-0958.

1996 Toyota T-100. 8' bed, 2VD, white, AC, PS, PB, ladder rack, bedliner, 160K, mostly freeway, \$8,600/OBO. 941-0968.

1991 Chevy pickup. V6, 4.3L, rebuilt engine, tires, rotors, plugs, wires, body. Great cond. \$2,700/OBO. 430-0159.

1993 Pontiac Grand Am GT. 102K, CD, PW, PL, CC, AC, runs great, \$4,500/OBO. 430-4500 X11961. Lcpl. Nicasio.

1997 Ford Escort Sport LX. Ex. cond., 65K, alarm, AC, \$6,500/OBO. 941-8382.

Parts & Accessories

1987-93 Mustang Saleen style Valence and BBK Lowering Springs. \$250. Will sell separate. 754-5242.

Altec Lansing computer speakers, \$10. 763-0252.

Miscellaneous

Weslo treadmill. All bells and whistles, ex. cond., \$195/OBO. 724-0978.

Baby entertainment center/saucer, \$25. Baby Graco swing with 6 settings and music, \$50. Baby bouncer chair, \$7. All ex. cond. 430-0643.

Little Tykes adjustable basketball hoop, \$10. 385-0712.

Violin. Used, full size Suzuki violin, ex. cond., paid \$425, sell \$225. 729-7688.

Eclipse CD/tuner (Model 55430) 4 mos. old, (3) 5-V pre-outs, \$290. 430-2074.

MTX audio amp. 4-channel, 80W x4, \$250. Ext. warr. 2-channel 140W x2, \$190. Ext. warr. 430-2074.

Home/kitchen decor. Cow collection, assorted household and decoration items. Will sell all as package or piece out. Prices negotiable. 385-0531.

Craftsman radial arm saw, 10" blade and Craftsman drill press, free standing, 15" drill capability, \$200/both. 385-0531.

9 sets vinyl vertical blinds. Misc. sizes., fits house in South Mesa. All for \$100. 430-4161.

Dinnerware. Ex., 45-50 pieces. Includes canister set, cup stand w/6 mugs, pitcher, spaghetti dish, complete service for 8, \$75. 439-5945.

Brother printer, multi-function center. 7150C, under warr., \$100/OBO. 435-9904.

Chainlink fence, \$125. Dog kennel, \$75. Brass double bed, \$75. Fish tanks and small animal cages. Ladies golf clubs, bag and cart, \$50. 806-0073.

Crunch amps, 300W, 3-channel, 400W, 4-channel for automobile. Universal gym plus free weights, \$150/OBO. Angel collectors plates, \$30/ea. 403-7857.

Angel collectors plates w/cherry wood frames, \$30/ea. 430-7857.

Sewing table, decorative pictures, decorative pillows, couch covers, deep fryer. Will deliver. 723-5203.

Golf clubs. Mizuno MP-14 irons, 1-PW, \$450. Vokey 56 and 60 degree wedges, \$160/both. Everything ex. cond. All for \$550. (909) 461-0039.

Treadmill. Vitamaster Pro. Paid \$859, sell \$295. 941-0968.

Plant sale. Oct. 4 to 6. Sago, Bromelads, Amaryllis, Staghorns and more. Priced to sell. 1780 Buena Vista Way, Carlsbad.

